

29 FEB 1984

INDEPENDENT RADIO STATION NEWS from IRELAND....23rd February 1984....Sheet 10.

Due mainly to illness on the part of the writer, but also due to pressure of business over the Christmas period, some time has elapsed since the last edition of this little news sheet, so a lot to say in a little space.

Radio Nova had a successful spell as regards advertising, in fact, someone nicknamed it Radio Advert over Christmas. Still, that can only be good, and the only thing that marred the success was occasional jamming by RTE(the National service). This jamming intensified greatly after the holiday period and continued for a good part of the month of January and into February. It affected mainly the Dublin audience, in other words, the ones listening on FM, but occasionally came through on AM and caused some breaks in transmission from time to time, as Nova engineers attempted to dodge same. RTE denied all knowledge of this jamming and it finally came out that they were 'testing' transmitters on Nova's frequency, all quite above board apparently, as far as the law was concerned.

Eventually Nova decided to close down KISS FM 102.7, and after relaying it for one day only on 102khz., in mid-month January, proceeded to wind the station up completely. The D.J.'s from KISS were to be taken in at Nova, but as the jamming continued, Nova boss Chris Cary insisted that business was being affected, and he would have no choice but to lay off some staff, which he promptly did, resulting in fewer news bulletins, no 'Dublin Today' and no specialist programmes.

Ill feeling was created with some staff who promptly picketed the studios at 19 Herbert St., Dublin, as members of the N.U.J. This seemed to have no effect at all as the whole operation was transferred from these studios to the Nova Park Country Club in Rathfarnham, which Cary had bought outright some time ago. This move made the jamming more difficult for RTE. It appears also that the lease of 19 Herbert St., was just about up, so some move or other would have had to be made sooner or later. New studios were built and the builders could often be heard during news bulletins, when the microphone was open.

A very strong signal still emits from 819khz., some days better than others, making the station a number one to listen to along the West coast of the U.K. Meanwhile the FM on 88mhz., continues, and continues to be jammed, but the 102.7mhz., KISS transmitter has been brought into use for the Dublin audience, and seems to avoid a lot of the jamming. Adverts are a-plenty and the station still seems to be extremely successful. Present line-up is as follows:-

Mid-night - 6.00am.	Lawrence John or Mike Moran.
6.00 - 9.00am.	Declan Meehan (with Bob Gallico).
9.00 - mid-day.	Colm Hayes.
Mid-day - 3.00.	John Clark.
3.00 - 7.00pm.	Greg Gaughran.
7.00 - mid-night.	Jason Maine.

News-readers: Bob Gallico, Bernie Jameson and David Harvey.

Weekend presenters. Hugh O'Brien

Weekend Syndicated shows. American Top Forty with Casey Kasem and Soundtrack of the Sixties with Gary Owens.

Sunshine Radio continues free of jamming, as before, their AM signal nothing like as strong as that of Nova, in fact, during the Winter months, it has been hardly listenable some days, even along the West coast of the U.K. Conditions are now improving dramatically and once again, they can be heard loud and clear here. Adverts are a-plenty here also, as in the case of Nova.

There is the usual coming and going of stations in Dublin, particularly on FM, although one or two have appeared on AM as well. Carnival Radio on 1116khz seems to have replaced Community Radio 257 who were raided by the authorities due to interference to Dublin Airport. Diamond Radio on 1557khz have returned after an absence of two years. ABC Radio on 1251khz still pose a puzzle. Why run a powerful radio station for three months with non-stop music and just a couple of identifying jingles?

Down country, County Cork boasted yet another station, in Bandon, WKLR(West Cork Local Radio) appeared at the beginning of January, a few known names were heard, Peter Madison(since left), Steve Marshall, Andy Ellis and others. South Coast and ERI Radios experienced some jamming from RTE(again 'testing' frequencies).

A couple of known names departed the country, Johnny Moss(John Lewis) left and joined Laser 730, and was heard on that offshore station last weekend. Dave Windsor left and returned to the U.K. to become a Civil Servant once again. Tony Allan seems to be everywhere, he is heard more on Sunshine than anywhere else, but is starting to be heard again on Nova, in addition to South Coast Radio, ERI and Radio West.

A couple of well known songs were re-recorded over the holiday period, Nova had a well-known disco-tune converted to 'RTE Jam' by Colm Hayes, which they proceeded to play whenever RTE jammed them. Tony Allan re-recorded the Eartha Kitt song and it was played in the Cork area only.

Again, the main news seems to centre completely on Radio Nova. Early March saw the sacked N.U.J. members picketing the Herbert Street offices. Pictures appeared of the picket in many papers, and on all of them was Tom Hardy, which seemed strange as he was station manager and disc-jockey, hardly reason, I would have thought, to be a member of a journalist union, still. there he was with the other members of the news-team, all well wrapped up against the cold.

One person soon disappeared, and that was David Malone, he got himself a similar position with the BBC in Belfast, joining his former colleague, Brian Dobson, who joined them from Nova some months previously. This made three news-readers who left for legal stations, Sybil Fennell joined LBC in London just before Christmas.

As the Herbert Street operation wound down, the lease on the building being up, the picket transferred to the transmitter site in Rathfarnham, where new custom built studios had been built. It had little effect and programmes continued more or less as normal, with the exception of the news bulletins, which now ended at 7.00pm each evening, and often did not occur at all on Sundays.

Present line-up remained:-

Midnight - 6.00am.	Lawrence John or Mike Moran.
6.00 - 9.00am.	Declan Meehan and Bob Gallico.
9.00 - mid-day.	Colm Hayes.
12.00 - 3.00pm.	John Clark.
3.00 - 7.00pm.	Greg Gaughran.
7.00 - midnight.	Jason Maine.

News-readers: Bob Gallico and Bernie Jamieson.

Weekend presenters. Hugh O'Brien.

Weekend syndicated shows: American Top Forty with Casey Kasem and Soundtrack of the Sixties with Gary Owens.

Sports news reporter: Michael O'Brien.

Moving to Rathfarnham made it more difficult for RTE to 'jam' Nova, but this soon changed, as the 'jamming' equipment was obviously brought nearer the transmitter site. They managed to completely obliterate the 88FM signal and make the 102.7FM sound very distorted. A colleague reported that the only place that Nova could be heard on FM was in the actual transmitter building! However the medium wave continued as before, getting far and wide throughout Ireland and the U.K. RTE find this difficult to jam owing to the high power of the Nova transmitters.

Despite all this, Nova still managed to secure plenty of advertising, but on the weekend of 10th March, adverse publicity in the press must certainly have affected this. It apparently all started when Nova received a bill for £150,000 from the VAT people. All staff were given their P.45's, but were all kept on, on a day to day basis, no further staff lost jobs, but station manager Mike Hogan resigned. The newspapers had a field day, saying that Nova was bankrupt and would close any day, this without doubt affected advertising. Nova continued as before, as professional as ever, leaving all the papers 'with egg on faces'. Tuesday 13th March dawned without Declan Meehan... was this the beginning of the end? Not so, he had 'flu and lost his voice, re-appearing on the morning of 19th March, St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday.

Quite a lot of 'Nova bashing' had gone on over this period, which really is surprising, because had Nova gone under, what would the Irish people be left with, a state-run monopoly, hopelessly trying to be a 'Nova', and a lot of very inferior pirate stations, with one or two exceptions, like Sunshine and Treble T.R., who without doubt would have been the next targets for the RTE 'tests'.

So, Nova still survives, the advertising now being taken over once again by D.A.D. (Dial a Directory) who handled a lot of the business before. The 'Job Spot' continues, as do a lot of the little features throughout each day.

Latest rumours say Nova has been rescued by a group of foreign businessmen, and that Chris Cary has bought a ship, and plans to join the 'fleet' in the Thames Estuary. Personally, I doubt this. Time will only tell.

Another very well known disc-jockey has once again come within ear-shot of this QTH. Daffy Don Allen has left ERI in Cork, and joined Radio West in Mullingar, the powerful mid-langs pirate. This move occurred some time in February.

Stevie Gordon or Dunne, whichever name you know him by, after spending three months in Ireland, not on the radio at all, has left and returned to his home in Bournemouth. Destination from there, not known as yet, probably Denmark again.

Declan Meehan on Radio Nova remembered 20th March this morning, the 1980 one, and played suitable dedication.

Small stations still spring up and disappear as quick in the Dublin area, particularly on FM. Latest reports indicate that ex-Nova staff may soon be heard in the area again.

Down country, Alan West can be found in Tramore, with ABC radio, his young lady, Carrie Osborne was logged reading the news on that station a few days ago.

RTE continue to jam ERI in Cork City, obviously now spurred on by the moderate success of their Dublin operation.

And so, it all carries on, legislation was to have been introduced ages ago, but that is Ireland, thank goodness.

Finally, popular Nova D.J. Tony Gareth re-joined Radio Caroline 20th March 1984.

Jamming by R.T.E. provides us with most of the news this time around. On 21st March, Sunshine reported severe jamming on both FM channels. This was obviously as a result of Chris Cary switching off both his FM transmitters and concentrating on AM only. It was learned that this FM jamming, or 'testing of transmitters' as RTE preferred to call it, was only the beginning, and they were in the process of building a medium wave jammer on the Beaumont transmitter site, a place called, 'the Old Piggery'.

Apparently, RTE only have two transmitters they can use to jam FM at this point in time, so it was not long before Chris Cary re-appeared on both 88mhz and 102.7mhz. RTE were not able to jam all four at one time, but only two, so with a bit of luck, both stations were able to operate one FM at least, but the listeners were getting a bit fed up with having to keep re-tuning their radios.

Chris Cary returned at the end of March after his "Disappearance", and immediately Nova improved in leaps and bounds, new adverts appeared, competitions etc. Easter Monday saw one of their now famous 'all oldies' days and to many people's delight, Declan Meehan returned the following day, after four weeks away. Chris Barrie was heard again, as indeed were Roland Burke (production) and Martin Block (voice-overs). The station is now more or less as it was at its peak, leaving a lot of red faces in the newspaper world (see last edition's paper cuttings).

It was noted that a new antenna had gone up at Nova's transmitter site a few days ago and it was not until two days ago the reason was known. Everyone in the radio business knew that RTE were building this medium wave transmitter/jammer, but very few knew who was going to be on the receiving end of it, when it eventually came on. Robbie Dale had pickets and marches organised and Chris Cary, well, at the time we did not know, but soon would, for at 5.15pm on 25th April, the jamming started on 531khz., Sunshine's channel. It did not last too long, as RTE had managed to jam themselves on 567khz., 612khz., and distress frequencies also.

Sunshine immediately put their plan into operation appealing to people to contact T.D.'s etc., etc. Nova, next morning put their plan into operation, another transmitter operating on 729khz., only low power at the time, but with promise of much higher power to come, and all this on a RTE recognised channel (albeit in Cork)!

Sunshine experienced severe jamming from mid-morning on both AM and FM, the AM managing to avoid the RTE channels this time, but severely interfering with the BBC weather report station, 'Roadsat' on 526khz. This British legal transmission was severely affected in many parts of the U.K. The jamming ceased at lunch-time on AM, (26th), for reasons unknown, and has not as yet returned, possibly due to the fact that Sunshine Radio are running the now famous 'Auction on the Air' this weekend, where they raise cash, and lots of it, for the Central Remedial Clinic in Dublin. The question now arises, will the jamming re-commence on Monday?

A quick look at other stations now, an all Irish station has appeared on 1350khz. Radio Na Gaeilge, Radio Annabel seem to be having problems, both 1035 and 1134khz.. being heard at one stage this week, but now, nothing. Community Broadcasting Co-operative re-appeared for the Summer on 1116khz. They travel around for the various festivals and become that areas festival station for a short period.

Around the country, Westward 314 have had to close, due to loss of premises in Ballina. Former owner, Eamon or Frank Brooks or Roger Matthews or latterly Jack Daniel has been seen in that area in the last few days, and this could mean possibly a return for the station or a similarly named one. British national newspapers confirmed Mr Daniels disappearance from the U.K. today, he was due in court in Ludlow for operating a pirate radio station there (Sunshine Radio), but failed to appear. Atlanta Sound in Galway are reputed to be on air twenty four hours a day, no further details as yet. ABC in Tramore have parted company with partner Stuart Clark, following departures of John Lewis (for Laser) and Dave Windsor. Rob Scott and girl-friend Carrie are both to be heard on air, Rob, famous under another name, from RNI. Regular adverts for English staff appear in music papers in the U.K. The station seems to make an ideal platform for would-be big-time D.J.'s.

Finally, Tony Gareth, as stated in sheet 11, joined Caroline on 20th March, but left several days later due to illness and starts at Mercia Sound in Coventry, any day now.

The jamming of both Sunshine Radio and Nova made big news in the Irish Press. It was strange, because the majority of people were against RTE jamming unlicensed stations. Even the government said it was wrong and had to stop, but still, it went on.

The week commencing 30th April was no different, jamming occurred on one of Nova's FM frequencies, and on one of Sunshine's too, leaving each station with one clear FM channel, but the big medium wave jammer returned on 539m following the 'Auction On The Air' weekend, when £31,000 was raised for the Central Remedial Clinic. Fortunately, the left that alone. I am sure there would have been real trouble had they jammed that. The jammer was sited at Beaumont in North County Dublin, almost at the side of the road, in a place called 'The Old Piggery'. A complicated aerial array could be seen only yards from the highway, the transmitter and its operator/s were housed nearby. It seemed quite a complicated jamming signal, a constant noise was heard on the actual frequency, but it could be tuned out by going to one side of the channel. Whenever the announcer mentioned the jamming and to contact T.D.'s, further jamming noises appeared and completely obliterated everything.

Mysteriously, the jamming all ceased on Friday 4th May in the late afternoon. It was rumoured that it was a government directive which got it stopped. It has not reappeared since at all. One may wonder what they are up to now, time will tell.

Sunshine Radio had mentioned that they too may go on an additional channel, as had Radio Nova some days before, but as yet nothing has happened, and probably won't whilst the jamming is not there.

Radio Nova erected a further aerial and appeared on 729khz on fairly low power, aiming at the Dublin audience only. An announcement indicated a third channel shortly, but again, not as yet, and probably won't appear. RTE occupy the above frequency in Cork, so Nova could hardly increase power very much for fear of interfering with that transmission. On Sunday 13th May, Nova moved to the adjacent channel, 738khz., a clear channel, formerly occupied by Radio Leinster, who went off last year, after the raids. As yet, no further increase in power, but, at least, if they do, then they won't interfere too much with RTE.

As regards the FM, Nova now has three, 88.2, 88.6 and 102.6mhz., Sunshine two, 100.5 and 101.5. All five can be received on the coast of West Britain by anyone with a reasonable FM set.

Radio Nova's studios in the Nova Park Country Club are really unbelievable, they contain everything one could imagine or want.

Sybil Fennell returned to Nova at 7.00pm last evening(15th May), on the news. She had recently left LBC in London, she joins Bob Gallico and Bernie Jamieson, and probably others in the next day or two, as the news service is once again extended and the programme 'Dublin Today' returns.

Rick Dees now has a syndicated show on Saturdays between 10.00 am and 2.00pm. He replaces Gary Owens and 'Soundtrack of the Sixties'.

Around the Dublin area, stations come and go daily. Radios Na Gaelige, Wonderland, Castle K, Rainbow plus others unidentified were logged last weekend.

Around the country, Atlantic Sound is now on air in Galway city, as is Radio Sligo to the North.

Radio West continues in Mullingar, broadcasting far and wide from his transmitter parked in a field some miles to the South of Mullingar. Power for his transmitter comes from a generator. A tank on wheels nearby contains the diesel to operate the thing. When they go off the air now, and they often do, I shall no longer wonder why.

John Lewis(Moss) has once again returned home(this time from the Laser), and can be heard doing the breakfast show on ABC in Tramore. He joins other English presenters there, Bob Scott, Andy Ellis, Clive Derrick, Dave Hunt, Tony Morrell and others.

Reports suggest that all is well in Cork, South Coast Radio seem to be doing well in the city. They can just be heard in the U.K. in the early morning. ERI have the surrounding areas to the North and East fairly well sewn up, whilst to the South and West, WKLR in Bandon have carved a niche for themselves.

Further North, Wicklow Community Radio have built all new studios, very impressive in their modest way. A new FM service on 97mhz., compliments these, plus a new transmitter and frequency(1602khz) for the medium wave, in the not too distant future. Scott Williams now works at Wicklow, after 'doing' the stations in Dublin, inc. Nova.

In Drogheda, Boyneside are also constructing new studios. Hedy Eddy, is the main man there. Frank Ryan is also to be heard on the air at lunchtime. He was last heard of leaving Sunshine rather spectacularly.

Carousel in Navan continue successfully on medium wave only, under the guidance of the experienced Kieran Murray, unlike their neighbour Royal County who seem to be going down fast, some of their presenters having left for the new Cavan Comm. Radio.

Looking around at the money being spent on new equipment, the scene seems to be far from over. Who would have thought that a year ago, when the great raids took place, so much was still to happen.

Rather a longer gap than normal this time between news letters, for two reasons. The first, and main reason, being the fact that the writer has moved to a larger house, causing untold problems, which we shall not go into now. The second reason, simply that there has not been a lot of news to report, as can be seen by the single sheet of news cuttings from the Irish Press, and this not full.

We left Nova in mid-May with two AM channels and three FM channels in operation, and promise of more to come if the jamming continued. The jamming ceased on 4th May and there has been no further interruptions to any station. Nova's new studios, as previously stated were superb. The two on air studios being right at the end of the new studio/office complex. Why two studios? Was KISS FM set to return? We all found out on 23rd May when we tuned to Nova on 819khz., then tuned to 738khz. The latter was playing different music! This continued from 8.20am., until 10.15am., when announcements were made indicating that we were listening to Radio Exidy 738 with none other than Tony Allen! The programming was excellent, as only Tony could come up with. Unfortunately, on quiet pieces of music, one could here Nova underneath, breaking through. Likewise, Exidy was breaking through on Nova. Word soon spread around the country, from Ian Anderson in Lerwick, Shetlands to Buster in Benfleet, Essex. But it was not to last, sadly, as just after 1.30pm., it disappeared just as quickly as it had appeared almost 5½ hours earlier. The reason on enquiring, was simple, untold problems from breakthrough, as happens when two powerful stations operate from one site. The problems could indeed have been overcome, but the cost could well have been astronomical. Still, it was nice to hear Tony again, strange really when you think that almost a year ago to the day, Tony was on the air in Nova, closing the station down forever and ending the 'Great Irish Radio Experiment'.

The following day whilst everyone was tuning to the offshore station Laser 558, which came on at 5.00am., Nova appeared again on 738 as Nova International. The 819khz., transmission ceased, as did 88.2, 88.6mhz., shortly after, leaving 102.7mhz. only.

The signal has gone from strength to strength since then, reaching almost to London and covering most of Scotland, Wales and England. The service area has been extended into the U.K. and now covers an area North to Carlisle, East to Leeds and South, to North of Birmingham and North Wales and the Isle of Man. Adverts are being taken for this area, and a London office has been opened at South Bank House, Black Prince Road, London S.E.1, with a Liverpool office to follow shortly.

Weather and traffic reports for the U.K. are aired and competitions like the £5000 Giveaway and Nova Bingo are currently running.

Tony Allen has been busy with new jingles and the 'Radio Nova, playing all over.. series has been extended to cover almost every town in the new listening area, plus a few hoax ones like 'Weatherfield', 'Ambridge' and 'Brookside'.

Staff holidays once again have caused a few problems. Extended hours have been the order of the day for those remaining. Plus 'extra' voices have been heard on air, Chris Cary, Tony Allen and others. Declan Meehan is leaving for a couple of months, to work on Capital London, as relief producer, so we may have Tony Allen on air next week doing the Breakfast Show. A host of new news-readers have been set on, some staying, some just 'passing through' so to speak, as the news service has been extended considerably. 'Dublin Today' still has not reappeared, despite promises of same.

T-shirts, stickers and Nova video are currently being advertised on the station.

Why has this 'mini Luxembourg' situation happened and what do the Irish think about it all. My guess personally, and that is all it is, Chris Cary has always wanted a 'Luxembourg', ever since he worked on that station. Secondly, two pirate stations in the Thames Estuary, more on the way, how long before a 'July '64' situation (one sails to the North)? Cary may well have it all sewn up if that happens. The Irish surely won't be angry with him, bringing all that overseas money into the country. The Irish people don't like Nova playing to the U.K. and resent things like 'playing all over Manchester now', hence further Irish versions appearing. I wonder if Luxembourgers act in this way?

Elsewhere in Ireland, things chug along smoothly, Carousel Navan have a new modulation transformer in use now, giving a cleaner signal here, on 1386khz. Radio Na Gaeilge from Swords, North County Dublin have introduced a shortwave transmitter on 6340khz. from time to time, and the signal has been picked up by a number of people including ourselves, and Podney in Cornwall. Whilst mentioning shortwave, ABC in Tramore occasionally put theirs on, Sunday mornings.

Alan West(Bob Scott) has now left ABC and joined Abe on the VOP in the Med. John Lewis Moss remains there however.

South Coast Radio have serious problems in Cork, due to financial support being withdrawn by their final shareholder. Several have left, including John Kenny, who has joined Capital in Dublin, although we understand Nick Richards is still there, and Keith York commutes between there and the station in Bandon, WKLR.

SOUTH COAST RADIO NOW CLOSED DOWN - DON STEVENS ON NOVA IN PLACE OF DECLAN MEEHAN (23.7.84) THE WHEREABOUTS OF NICK RICHARDS AND KEITH YORK UNKNOWN AS OF TODAY (24.7.84)

19 AUG 1984

Welcome to the first of our new 'weekly report' news-sheets. This sheet will be printed every week and will incorporate Irish station news and other free radio snippets as they are brought to our attention. We shall attempt to cover the period beginning on a Monday and ending on a Sunday, and including short-wave log of that Sunday. This will be achieved with the help of our many good friends including old favourites like Ken Baird, Gary Hogg, Sandy Mountain and Kieran Murray to mention but a few.

Radio Nova, as always, first. A new jingle package from Jams in America appeared over the airwaves, and included the new frequencies of 738khz., and 102.7mhz., in addition to all the presenters having their own I.D.'s. Nova's current line-up of presenters reads as follows:- Mid-night - 6.00am., Chris Barrie or Noel Clancy, 6.00 - 10.00am., Colm Hayes, 10.00 - 2.00pm., John Clark, 2.00 - 7.00pm., Greg Gaughran, 7.00 - midnight, Jason Maine. Weekend presenters:- Hugh O'Brien, Dave Harvey, Roland Burke, Casey Kasem and Rick Dees (the latter two being syndicated shows.). News-readers:- Headed by Sybil Fennell, Bob Gallico, Bernie Jamieson, Howard Hughes, Dave Johnson. News bulletins now carry features by members of the presenting staff, plus Chris Cary and Tony Allan. Tony has made a welcome return to the airwaves, doing one or two programmes plus many news items, jingles and adverts etc. We expect to hear more from him soon. Recent problems with the ESB(electricity board) have resulted in Nova using a generator to power its transmitters. The problem should be sorted out shortly. Finally, an advert for a replacement for Declan Meehan in 'Broadcast' magazine has brought a mass of applicants. Rumour has it that half the IBA has applied for the post.

Sunshine Radio: Many regular staff have been missing due to holidays. However Andy Rue has now returned to his lunchtime spot and Martin King is expected back this week, after six/seven week stint, working in the Canary Islands, along with Tony Fenton(ex Sunshine). Lawrence John, recently of 'All Night Nova' fame can now be heard on occasions doing 'All night Sunshine'.

Don Stevens, late of the now closed down South Coast Radio, is reported to have gone with Keith York, to open a station in Galway. Frank Wynne, late of Nova is likewise reported to be setting up a station in Sligo.

ABC Radio in Tramore has recently seen the departure of Rob Scott(Alan West) for the VOP, and also John Lewis(Steven Bishop) for Caroline. Plenty of 'pirates' still abound at this station, and include Andy Ellis, Clive Derrick, Tony Morrell and Dave Hunt. The short wave service has returned, albeit rather intermittantly, on 7325khz., with excellent quality throughout the U.K., courtesy of Richard Staines. It is the old ABC England t/x as suggested in Airspec magazine.

Not a lot new on the wavebands from Ireland this week, except Radio Carousel seems to have re-appeared on 1071khz., underneath I.C.B.S.(the latter coming from Dublin, the former from, possibly, Drogheda). Big 'M' Community Radio broadcasting on the 1359khz., channel(not very clear in North West England due to Manx splatter from 1368khz), can be received on quite modest receivers on the harmonic frequency of 2718khz.

VOP news: Change over time for staff there: Leaving, Kevin Van Gelden, John Dwyer. Joining: Jeremy James from Blackpool and Paul Peet from Leicester plus Simon ??. Rob Scott is now programme controller. Recently recorded tapes can be purchased from us.

Caroline News: John Lewis did his first programme on Sunday, but did not I.D. He also did the breakfast show on Monday. Adrian King, presently doing the late shift, hails from St. Annes, near Blackpool. Tests on 576khz. continue but are only audible during the day in this area, and also in France, according to Francois l'Hote. 963khz., is still the better signal, both day and night, but has recently been plagued by a rather nasty heterodyne, reputed to hail from Tunisia. Blake Williams is reported to have returned to the U.S.A. whilst another female voice is expected shortly.

Laser Radio: not much to report, except that the signal sounds a bit flat compared with Caroline's signal. Sunday seems quite popular, as they feature music from the sixties. According to a circular received this day, a new book is now available called 'The Lid Off Laser 558' by Paul Alexander Rusling from Pirate Publications, P.O. Box 19, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 7XA. I think it could be a must for the free radio enthusiast.

Land-based: Former ERI and South Coast Radio news reader, Andrew Hewkin can now be heard on Top Shop Radio on Thursday afternoons and Radio Jackie on Sunday afternoons. The latter can be received in both North West England and South West Scotland quite often.

Liverpool Scene: available on separate sheet courtesy of Tim Jackson.

Short-wave: Log for Sunday 12th August 1984: 2718khz..Big 'M' Comm. Radio, this is a harmonic, 6200khz..Apollo, 6208khz..UNID(playing American Tapes), 6233khz..UNID, 6236khz Radio 48, 6240 Britain Radio Int., 6265khz..Krypton, 6280khz..Big Brother(test transmission only), 6280khz..Westside, 6340khz..Radio Na Gael, 6910khz..Radio Dublin, 7295khz..Victoria, 7315khz..Radio London, 7340khz..Pacific Int., 7445khz..Radio 101. Thats all, I got, I am sure Pod and Ken can manage one or two more.

This is the second of our news-sheets covering events and gossip of the previous week. Regular copies can be obtained each week and cost just 20p per week for the single sheet, which also includes postage. In the event of a mass of news to report, the news-sheet will extend to two sheets, at no extra cost. Photocopies of newspaper cuttings are now no longer sent with the sheet, but can still be obtained from us, when available, in which case we shall state so, after the report.

Nova, as usual, first, and not a lot to report there this week. Still no new presenters have been set on, despite an expensive advert in 'Broadcast' magazine, resulting in a host of applicants. Colm Hayes continues to present the Breakfast Show with Bob Gallico(rather well, I may add). The 50kw transmitter was giving a few problems on Saturday(18th), and had to be turned off for maintenance. The 10kw t/x took its place for the bent part of the day. Normal transmissions resumed on Sunday.

Sunshine Radio; as with most stations, staff holidays causing a few new voices to be heard and a few regulars on air at unusual times. Line-up shortly should read thus:-
Mid-night - 6.00am...Paul Vincent. 6.00 - 9.00am...Roger Lane and Cathy Cregan...9.00- mid-day...Robbie Dale...midday - 4.00pm...Andy Rua...4.00 - 8.00... Paul Kavanagh...8.00 - mid-night...David Denehy. Weekend presenters should feature Lawrence John, Martin King. The station is sounding quite good, with lots of adverts and jingles. Power is only a fraction of Nova's, but can still be heard in North West England very well. FM can also be picked up most days along the coastal strip and on high ground even as far North as Ayrshire.

Other Irish station news: ABC in Tralee could be heard loud and clear on shortwave, 7325khz., Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon, all day in the case of Mon and Tues, I might add. Radio Annabel, off the medium wave for some weeks now(1035khz.) appeared on Wednesday morning on 1323khz., loud and clear. The carrier had been on for some time, we all thought it may have been Boyneside Radio with a Dublin relay. Fingal C.Radio experienced a few problems on Saturday and Sunday with modulation. The station could hardly be heard. Keith York and Don Stevens, both ex South Coast Radio, were last heard of a few days ago heading for Galway. It now transpires that both lads have become majority shareholders in the existing station there, Atlantic Sound, broadcasting on 1026khz., medium wave and testing on 99.0/102.6mhz FM. Keith does the 2.00 - 6.00pm spot, whilst Don does two weekend shows in the morning. There is no point in printing the present line-up, as the station can not be received in the U.K. They can be contacted, however, at 18 Forster St., Galway. Frank Wynne, late of Nova Traffic Reports, has likewise headed for Sligo and reports have it that he has got a station off the ground there, calling itself, RNW Sligo(Radio North West), on 1413khz. Finally, new station lists and new station address and phone number lists are now in print and can be obtained from the above address.

American medium wave DXing was quite good last Friday morning, Sandy tells me, I missed it! around 3.00 - 4.30am !

In addition to a number of Liverpool land based pirates, KFM from Stockport and Chorley Community Radio, a further station has been reported on air, or at least testing, Calder-Vale Sound Community Radio on 1405khz., Sunday, promising programmes in September.

BBC 1 News gave good coverage to Caroline, Laser and Radio Jackie on Friday evening at 9.00pm. Splendid shots of both ships were screened as well as internal shots of Laser and Jackie. As usual, we managed to video the whole thing, which probably only lasted a couple of minutes or so.

The English printed Irish Post of Saturday last, gave its main story to RTE 1 who stated that they were now hemmed in by pirates, Laser on 558 and Caroline on 576khz., and their signal could not be received without splatter in London. Photo-copies are available.

The Dublin evening papers of Saturday last stated that the Irish P & T (post office) had called on the British Home Office to do something about Laser, although quite what they can do puzzles me.

The Sunday Mail(English edition) carried a two page spread on the pirates and included Laser and many land-based stalwarts. Photo-copies are available.

The London Evening Standard of Wed. 13th August carried as second headlines, a story about Lazar(note the spelling this time), and how it was breaking all the rules, even as far as running road shows in the area(ex-Caroline Roadshow man, Robbie Day in charge here).

The following day's Standard carried another second headline story, this, about all the London land-based pirates. Both the latter are quite big articles and are available as photo-copies from us.

Finally, this weeks short wave loggings from the 48/49 metre and 41 meter band. Conditions started good but faded, particularly around lunchtime cutting QSO ers off in mid-conversation. 6205khz...Free Radio Service, Holland, 6218khz., Premier Radio Int, 6235khz...UNID, (was it Radio Freedom again?), 6265khz...Krypton, 6280khz...Westside, 6317khz...Valleri, 6340khz...Na Gael, 7295khz...Victoria(via Milano Int.), 7320khz...UNID, 7340khz..Radio Waves/Pacific Int, 7373khz...Station 41, 7375khz., Crystal, 7445khz... Radio 101.

Monday 20th August 1984....Caroline has been back exactly one year, Laser has been with us for eight months, and a new ship is due, is there, is expected?????? Time has the answer

1 SEP 1984

'Anoraks U.K.'... Weekly Report... No. 17... 27th August 1984... P.O. Box 539, Blackpool.

The 'Weekly Report' is actually a week and a day this time, owing to the Bank Holiday. News was a bit thin on the ground during the week, but things have hotted up a little over the weekend.

Radio Nova, broadcasting from Dublin on 738khz., medium wave and 102.7mhz FM in stereo, (also for some difficult reception areas in Dublin, 103.2mhz.). More staff holidays, John Clarke this time, Chris Barrie sat in on his 10.00am to 2.00pm show all week, but today Monday(not a bank holiday in Ireland), a new D.J. appeared at 10.00am., Dave Christian, ex Radio Luxembourg star. A little hesitant at first, but I am sure that he will fit in with the Nova team. The station are poised to give away £10,000 in Europe's biggest cash giveaway ever. Listeners have to phone in when three tunes are played one after the other in a certain order. When this happens, and they promise to do it between 7.00am and 7.00pm, before 30th September, the fiftieth caller on each side of the Irish Sea, wins £5,000, ("that's £5,000 in cash"). In the bay area(Dublin), the number is 931710 and on this side, the number is 01 440 7033. The new jingle package is getting run in now, and sounding very good indeed, thanks to Tony Allan, who has also done one of his songs', this time taking Stevie Wonder's 'Happy Birthday' and adapting it to Nova, and in particularly Nova's third birthday(medium wave, that is) on Thursday 30th September. They are even having a party at the Nova Park Country Club. Happy Birthday Nova!

Sunshine Radie, and Robbie Dale duly returned after a week long break. Now it is Cathy Cregan's turn, she finished on Wednesday for her annual holidays.

ABC Radio in Tramore, broadcasting on 1026khz., AM and 101.0mhz FM stereo, still have taken on no replacement for either John Lewis(Caroline) or Rob Scott(VOP) and their current line-up is :- 7.00 - 10.00am., Tony Morrell.....10.00 - 1.00pm., Kevin McCarthy... 1.00- 4.00pm., Andy Ellis....4.00 - 7.00pm., Dave Hunt....7.00 - 10.00pm., Roddy Clear.... 10.00 - 2.00am., James Day.....2.00 - 7.00am., Neil Butler.

A new station was logged on both Sunday and Monday, on Sunday on 1398khz., and on Monday, on 1401khz., from Dublin. The name appeared to be Radio Maniac!, announcing 202m! Further listening may be called for.

Radio West appear to have lost their star presenter, Don Allen. He appeared on Cavan Community Radio on 819khz., this morning, together with his young lady, Lindsay Shelbourne who was reading the news. Cavan used to be on 747khz., until Neva moved to 738khz., from 819khz. They then moved themselves to 819khz., and the signal was quite reasonable until modulation problems occurred making the signal inaudible at any distance from Cavan. They now seem to have solved these problems and can be heard once again, loud and clear here.

On to the offshore stations now, and a fairly large piece in the Guardian of 17th August(photo-copies available) about how the British Government are seeing if the two offshore stations are interfering with beacons etc in the Thames Estuary, and looking into ways of dealing with them, if they are.

Whilst on the subject of ships and magazines, three magazines were published this week, FRM Magazine from Holland, Offshore Echos(in English) from France and Caroline Movement Bulletin, all had good reports on the offshore stations, and pictures too.

To commemorate twenty years of broadcasting, Radio Caroline repeated the highly successful Top 500, which was first aired at Easter. It commenced at 9.00am on Saturday with John Lewis, followed at lunch-time by Simon Barrett, then at tea-time with Adrian King. Sunday continued at 9.00am with Jay Jackson, followed by Simon Barrett, then John Lewis. Monday started with John Lewis again and followed by Simon Barrett

There appears to be a few reasons for the repeat: listeners requesting it, Bank Holiday weekend, to celebrate one year back on the air(20th). The signals are quite reasonable in this area, 963khz., has the slight edge during the day over 576khz., the latter suffering slightly from splatter from RTE 1. At night, 576khz is inaudible, whilst 963khz suffers terribly from the heterodyne caused by the Tunisian station, who are slightly off channel.

Laser appeared to be trying out one or two improvements to their signal last Sunday (19th) they seemed to be trying to increase the power, but every time they did this, the record decks slowed down. They apparently abandoned this idea but modulation seems to have increased. A number of breaks in transmission were noted, until normal power was re-applied. The Laser video, as advertised on the ship, has been received by a number of people whose comment is that it is short and disappointing.

Land-based, and Chorley Community Radio were received here on both Sunday and Monday. Radio Jackie was received each morning on 1332khz., and Skyline was received on 1413khz., in Leeds on Wednesday last.

Short-wave: two logs for the two days this time: Sunday first, 2718khz., Big 'M' C.R., ...6207khz., Empire Radio....6210khz., UNID(not Monte Carlo)...6235khz., UNID(Freedom), 6240khz., Britain Radio Int.....6265khz., Krypton....6280khz., Westside.....6285khz., Mi Amigo....6313khz., RCSW....7295khz., Radio Victoria(via R.Milano Int.)...7325khz., ABC Radio(Tramore),....7175khz., UNID.....6910khz., Radio Dublin.....7360khz., CLCG/Music Radio Holland....7445khz., Radio 101....6300khz., INUD.

Monday: 6230khz., Kristel....6270khz., Spectrum World Broadcasting....7295khz., Radio Milano Int....7325khz., ABC Radio(Tramore)....6340khz., Radio Na Gael.

P.S.
FM REPORT FOR TUESDAY 28TH AUGUST 1984 SAT. 3600/GALAXIE '23'/MAGNUM SLOWIT.

98.1 mhz BOYNESIDE RADIO
98.8 - RADIO DUBLIN EN II
99.5 - TREBZ T.R.
101.1. - ABC TRAMORE.
100.82 - CAROUSEL

100.5 - SUNSHINE
101.5 - SUNSHINE
102.7 - NOVA
103.2 - MONT
105.0 - DUBLIN COMM. RADIO

AND HOGA!